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## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JON TESTER, a Senator from the State of Montana.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Father of all, we pray today for our Senators. You said in Your Word that we should pray for those who govern so that we may live quiet and peaceable lives in all Godliness and honesty. So we ask You to walk beside our lawmakers. Give them wisdom and knowledge. May discretion be their shield, delivering them from the evil path. Direct their decisions and infuse them with the spirit of knowledge and discernment. Deliver them from all littleness of heart, shallowness of mind, and smugness of spirit that would keep them from embracing Your purposes. Draw them into deeper friendship with You and each other.

We pray in the Name of Him who gives us life eternal. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JON TESTER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, March 4, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable JON TESTER, a Senator from the State of Montana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. TESTER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican Leader, the Senate will be in a period of morning business for up to 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each and the time controlled between the two leaders or their designees. Following morning business, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of S. 2663, the bill to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The Senate will stand in recess from 12:30 until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus lunches.

We are going to do everything within our power to finish the CPSC bill this week. Everyone should understand that we have to complete the bill this week because next week we have to be on the budget. So I would hope everyone understands that if we finish this bill at a decent hour on Thursday, we will be out Thursday; otherwise, we are going to have to work until we complete it, whatever that takes.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. There will now be a period for the

transaction of morning business for 60 minutes, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled by the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half of the time and the Republicans controlling the final half.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Washington.

### BOEING LOSES

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, last Friday I stood on the floor of the 767 line with workers in Everett, WA, who have put their hearts and their souls into making Boeing airplanes. I was there as those workers learned that after 50 years—five decades—the Air Force no longer wants them to build its refueling tankers. I saw the dismay in their eyes when they learned their Government is going to outsource one of the largest defense contracts in history to the French company Airbus. It was devastating news for Boeing, for American workers, and for America's men and women in uniform.

Today, those workers are frustrated, and they are angry, not only because the tanker contract would mean 44,000 new American jobs in 40 States, including 9,000 in my home State of Washington; they are frustrated and angry because their Government let them down. They are frustrated and angry because their Government wants to take American tax dollars, their tax dollars, and give that money to a foreign company to build planes for our military.

I am frustrated and angry, too, because I cannot think of a worse time for a worse decision. Our economy is hurting. We are nearing a recession, if we are not already there. Families are struggling just to get by, in part because their factory jobs have been moved overseas.

This tanker contract was not just one defense contract, it was a key piece

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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